



PRESS RELEASE

Latest Seasonally Unadjusted Unemployment and Job Estimates for Local Labor Markets in Massachusetts

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Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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BOSTON, MA — BOSTON MA - January 23, 2018 - Local unemployment rates decreased in sixteen labor market areas, increased in four areas and remained the same in four labor market areas in the state during the month of December, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development reported.

Compared to December 2016, the rates were up in twenty-three labor market areas and remained the same in one labor market area.

Seven of the fifteen areas for which job estimates are published recorded seasonal job gains in December. The gains occurred in the Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford, Peabody-Salem-Beverly, Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury, Framingham, Leominster-Gardner, Worcester, and Pittsfield areas.

From December 2016 to December 2017, all fifteen areas added jobs, with the largest percentage gains in the Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury, Barnstable, New Bedford, Pittsfield, and Boston-Cambridge-Newton areas.

In order to compare the statewide rate to local unemployment rates, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the statewide-unadjusted unemployment rate for December was 3.1 percent.

Last week, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development reported the statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 3.5 percent in the month of December.

The statewide seasonally adjusted jobs estimate showed a 300 job loss in December, and an over-the-year gain of 63,000 jobs.

The unadjusted unemployment rates and job estimates for the labor market areas reflect seasonal fluctuations and therefore may show different levels and trends than the statewide seasonally adjusted estimates.

The estimates for labor force, unemployment rates and jobs for Massachusetts are based on different statistical methodology specified by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTES: *The preliminary January 2018 and the revised monthly 2016 and 2017 unemployment rates, labor force data and jobs estimates for Massachusetts will be released on Thursday March 8, 2018; local unemployment statistics will be released on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. www.mass.gov/lmi. See the [2018 Media Advisory](#) annual schedule for complete listing of release dates.*

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Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance Department Economic Research

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